What the Nebraska Delegation

Think of His Letter.

A GREAT VARIETY OF OPINIONS.

Some Believe It a Bona Fide Withdrawal and Others Only a Ruse

-Comments of Leading Newspapers.

Boes He Want the Nomination? WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMARA BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 13.

Mr. Blaine's letter withdrawing his name from the list of aspirants to the presidential nomination was not a great surprise in Washington, although it has been the sole topic of discussion to-day. Here are now located representative men from every section of the country, and several authorized mouth pieces of Mr. Blaine. In secret his intentions have been known to so many men in congress and around it that, generally speaking, they were prepared for the proclamation, but there were few who expected it in such a formal way. A very few republicans—some advocates of Mr. Blaine's renomination and some who were opposed to it-regard the letter as but an effort to draw out an expression from the people and to shift the responsibility upon the party from Mr. Blaine in the event the nomination is thrust upon him now, but these men are very few. Nine-tenths of the people re gard the letter in good faith, and as being final. They say it is the mature deliberation of Mr. Blaine and that he has had this in contemplation for months Many republicans of national reputation while praising Mr. Blaine for his manly course in coming out early with this declara tion, thus relieving his party from any possi ble embarrassment and giving it ample time to select a candidate purely upon merit and acknowledging his strength, are turning their attention to the men likely to be taken up for the candidacy. Senator Sherman is first mentioned by everyone, and then in order came ex-Senator Harrison, of Indiana, Senators Allison, of Iowa, and Hawley, of Connecticut. One thing is sure, if Mr. Blaine has not abandoned every hope of the presi dency, this letter will, in the opinion of the statesmen here, take him clear out of the range of possibilities. It is conceded on all hands that there was no need of writing this letter if it was not to be conclusive and sincere. Therefore, the republicans are almost unanimous in the belief that Mr. Blaine, after a year's reflection and consultation with his tried and true friends, has come to the conclusion, that for reasons satisfactors personal to himself he does not want

NEBRASKA Congressman John A. McShane, who is dis-tinguished as the first democratic congress

man ever sent from Nebraska since she be-came a state, was asked this morning what he thought of Mr. Blaine's letter, "I have expected it for some time," said Mr. McShane. "Mr. Blaine is too keen and too shrewd a politician not to note the signs of the times. He has seen the handwriting on the wall and decided that it was wise for him to seek shelter. So far as my own state is concerned there will probably be great dis-appointment among the republicans, who have for years attached themselves to the Blaine boom and cheered and hurrahed with the procession. It will have no effect, however, upon Nebraska's electoral vote. She is so strongly republican that any republican nominee for president will secure a good majority."
"Who do you think the Blaine following in

Nebraska will now support?"
"Senator Sherman has many friends in Nebraska, and if he were a man of more warmth would doubtless secure the vote in the republican convention from my state. There seems to be a strong feeling, too, for General Sheridan. We have many Irishmen in Nebraska, who went wild for Blaine during the last canvass. If Sheridan were nom-inated it is certain that a number at least of these would vigorously support him on the ground of his nationality and faith. So far as the country at large is concerned. I believe that Mr. Blaine's withdrawal will give nev spirit to the democratic canvass. My judg ment is that he was the strongest candidate which the republican party could have pitted against Mr. Cleveland and for this reason that he would have attracted, as he did be fore, an immense number of votes of Irish men which are usually cast for the demo-cratic candidate. For all that I do not believe that Mr. Blaine could possibly have been elected. His bugle blast for the maintenance of a war tariff, while it might have helped him in one or two states, would have, in my judgment, detracted more from the republi-

"Mr. Blaine's letter will be a serious disappointment to his strong following in Nebraska and the west," said Senator Paddock. "I look upon it as a parriotic utter-ance from a man who more sincerely deserves that success of the republican party than he does that of his own individual interests, but whatever the motives which induced Mr. Blaine to take himself from the field I do t that he is sincere in his declaration and that his name will not be presented be re the next republican convention. The fect of the letter upon Nebraska will be detrimental to republican interests. The choice of the republican convention, which, I believe, will be the best attainable. There is, of course, a feeling in the state in favor of a western candidate, and William B. Allison would undoubtedly be very acceptable to our people. So would Senator Sherman, for that matter, or General Sheridan, who is strong in the hearts of the old soldiers and would draw a good deal of the Irish vote. The re-publicans of Nebraska, however, will cheerfully acquiesce in the best judgment of the party, and Mr. Blaine's withdrawal will only olidate all interests into a hearty suppor

material strength.

of the republican nominee."

Hon. J. Sterling Morton, of Nebraska, said: "I do not think Mr. Blaine intended to be considered out of the race entirely. Things looked a little bad. He had a headache probably, something like the Irishman who had been on a long spree. On waking up in the morning Pat swore off forever. After a while he saw a bottle on the mantel, which he called the attention of his wife to, the fact that it contained whisky, that there was sugar in the cupboard and water in the bucket and told her to make up a toddy, bring it to him and 'Force me to drink it whether I will or no.' I would have preferred to have seen Mr. Blaine run against Mr. Cleveland on the tariff issue rather than anybody else because they both have defined their posi-tion and there could have been no dodging

Representative Fuller, of Iowa, said: "Mr Binine's letter is sincere and honest and his withdrawni is a wise and patriotic act." "Do you believe that he means what he says!"
"Of course; who does not!"

"What effect will it have in your state!"
"It will not effect us at all. We have a
candidate of our own and it will crystalize
and solidify public sentiment for Allison."
Representative Holmes said: "Mr. Blaine's letter relieves the situation of a good deal of tension and I believe the success of the republican party is more certain now that he is withdrawn from the caavass even if he should be ultimately nominated. The charge that he is not in carnest is disproved by the fact that it would greatly prejudice him in the minds of all just men to indulge in any by play, and no one knows that any better than James G. Blaine."

support from other parts from the negthwest,

and from the east, where he is popular. I think his prospects for the nomination are as good as those of any other man."

good as those of any other man."

RLAINE ON THE PACIFIC.

Senator Standford, of California, said:
"Mr. Blaine's letter is, I think, a sincere expression of his wish not to be considered a candidate this year. He probably had various reasons for his hetiou, and at least one good reason. There seems to be no doubt that he is out of the race. The people of the Pacific coast were enthusiastic for his nomination and would give him a larger vote than any other republican could get. They now have no choice, I think, as regards a candidate, but whatever good republican is nominated will get the full party vote."

BOW IT IS IN MICHIGAN.

Senator Palmer, of Michigan, said: "Mr. Blaine is out of the race. Sherman, Harrison, Hawley and Allison are now good and strong men to chose a candidate from. I think myself that Sherman is now the strong-est candidate. He certainly is in Michigan and probably the country at large."

and probably the country at large."

WILSON BOOMS ALLISON.

Senator Wilson, of lowa, said: "He is sincere, and his name will not go before the convention. There could be no other interpretation put upon such a letter. He probably has good was not for his action, and the routhtation put upon such a terion, and the repub-has good reason for his action, and the repub-licans will take his letter as a final declina-tion in advance of the nomination. Mr. tion in advance of the nomination. Mr. Blaine's withdrawal will, I think, add strength to the candidacy of Scnator Allison, whom the state of Iowa will present and support in the most enthusiastic and earnest manner

SAWYER'S PLAIN TALK.

Senator Sawyer, of Wisconsin, said: "Mr.
Blaine means just what he says. He will not
be a candidate, and it is a good thing for the
republican party and the country that he will
not. His withdrawal removes a source of discord and the party will now be united upor some good man and we will thereby be much Who the nominee is now likely to ot say. Had Mr. Blaine remained a candidate he would probably have been nori-

Representative Chapman, of the Detroit district, and a democrat, said: "Mr. Biaine is simply acting a little boy. He is afraid of Mr. Cleveland's strength and did not wish to be too publicly a candidate. The democrats hope sincerely that he will be nomi-nated, as we can easily beathim in Michigan as elsewhere.

WHAT THE HOOSIER REPUBLICANS SAY.

The republicans in the Indiana delegation are, as a whole, inclined to regard the with drawel of Mr. Blaine as a favorable republi can symptom. General Browne said: "I anticipated a letter of declination from Blaine and am therefore not surprised. Public men are generally misinterpreted and many will are generally insinterpreted and many win say that this is but a bid for the renomina-tion, but, in my opinion, Blaine is carnest and will stand out of the race. This leaves an open field and now is Indiana's oppor-tunity. Let it but endorse ex-Senator Harrison with assured." unanimity and his nomination is

BLAINE OUT OF THE RACE. Representative Owen said: "The letter clearly takes Mr. Blaine out of the race There is no use to talk about it being a diplomatic move, for he had the nomination in his grasp. Sentiment has crystalized so rapidly in his favor for the past sixty days that if the convention had been held on last Satur-day he would have been nominated without serious opposition. Mr. Blaine is out of the race. As usual he creates a stir when he moves. The party will readjust itself and nominate a man who can unite it and who will be elected."

GOOD FOR THE PARTY. Representative Cheadle said: "The formal withdrawal of Mr. Blaine removes all cause for any further factional controversy within our party, and ought to inspire repub-lican managers with a high resolve to select a leader who can readily secure the united efforts of the republicans in all sections. To my mind his withdrawal will result in the selection of one who has not been heretofore prominently before the country as a candi-date. I find here that it is conceded that our ticket should be selected with special reference to Indiana, New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. These are the pivotal states. If Indiana republicans are not divided they can name tha man.

REGARDS IT SUSPICIOUSLY.

Said Representative Johnston: "It may not mean the absolute withdrawal of the Plumed Knights, although it looks that way. It has been suggested that it may be but otice that the nomination, if it is not made must rest in its responsibility with the party and not Mr. Blaine. I am really at a loss to know what it does mean. Blaine is a strong man in our state. Indiana has now an opportunity to rally to her candidate, General Har-

A BLAINE MANAGER SPEAKS. Colonel W. W. Dudley, ex-commissioner of pensions, said there could be no question about Mr. Blaine being out of the race. He was not surprised at the letter because he had expected it for some time. Mr. Blaine really does not want the nomination, and his bject in saying so at this early day is to give his party an abundance of time to cast about and select the strongest candidates. General Harrison, in my opinion." said Colonel Dudley, "has a better chance for the nomination than any man in the country. It may be Sherman, but I believe the order will be to take a new candidate, one who has never figured as an aspirant before a convention. Indiana has only to act with unanimity and she can name the candidate, and I have no delegation to Chicago.'

OTHER OPINIONS.
Representative Jones, of Pittsburg, an in timate friend of Chairman B. F. Jones, of the national republican committee, said: "am bound to accept Mr. Blaine's statement that he has withdrawn in carnest and I be-lieve that it is on personal as well a patriotic grounds. I am not much surprised, as I heard hints months ago that he intended heard hints months ago that he intended withdrawing. The effect will be to encour age republicans to look around for the strong est men and to attach themselves to the best candidate. Blaine bad a wonderful enthusiastic following, a following that will be loth to give him up, but it will have to look for another leader, and I believe it will result in the selection of the strongest possible candidate and one that will win. Mr. Blaine didate and one that will win. Mr. Blaine went abroad for his health. The letter mean

that he has been disappointed in his trip."

Representative Heistand, of Pennsylvania, said: "It is a good letter and means that Mr. Blaine is out of the race. He means business. He is out and no mistake. I think it is a wise determination. It was a surprise to me, but since the withdrawal is to come it is timely now. It is well for the party's interests.

Representative Farquar, of Buffalo said I expected it, but not in such formal shape It will give the republicans an opportunity to get a concensus of its best opinion and to se-lect a candidate without a struggle and purely upon merit. There will be no senti-ment about it. Mr. Blaine is broken down in health. I knew before he went to Europe that he suffered great nervous difficulty and felt sure be could not stand another cam-paign. The republican party has too many men of strong minds, too much independent thought, to ever get that discipline which

keeps the democratic party together."
Representative Harmer, of Philadelphia
who has been an ardent Blaine man, said "It will relieve a great many republicans who were piedged to Blaine and who would have supported him against their better judgment. I feel a freedom new myself and believe it will be to the interests of the republican party at large, for it now can act as its im-pulses will lead it."

Representative Boutelle, of Maine, who is the most intimate friend of Mr. Blaine in this congress, was very angry when asked this afterneon whether the letter was written in good faith. "That question," said he, "has been put to me a dozen times within a few minutes and it makes me very tired. What would you say if John Sherman would write such a letter. What? That it was sincere and final, and that it took him out of the race. It is an insult to Mr. Blaine and his friends to intimate that he does not mean what he says. He will not be a candidate and will says. He will not be a candidate and will not be nominated. This is no spentaneous matter. It is not the result of a day's reflec-tion, but that of a year. Mr. Blaine intended writing this letter before he left for Europe, but we persuaded him not to do so. I know knows that any better than Jomes G. Blaine."

Is Iswa for Allison!

"There is no doubt about it. He will come to the convention with a solid delegation from his own state, with a great deal of formidable."

Is Iswa for Allison!

of my own personal knowledge that since Mr. Blaine has been in Europe he has written no political letters, not even answering those of his best and closest friends. I have for four months been

writing him and getting the most prominent

Maine republicans in the country to do so, urging him for the good of his party to not do just what he has now done. Mr. Blaine is not as robust as he was once and he prefers to spend the rest of his days in literature rather than politics. But he is the best republican in America, and whoever is nominated will not only get his vote but all the influence he can wield. He is not a skulker."

Perry S. Heath.

What Chairman Jones Says. PITTSBURG, Pa., Feb. 13.-Mr. Jones, chairman of the republican national com-

mittee was interviewed by a Chronicle-Telegraph reporter this afternoon on Blaine's letter of declination. Mr. Jones stated that Blaine was in the best of health and it was not for this reason that he declined the reomination.

"His trip" said he, "has been wonderfully beneficial." I have had many letters from him and in nearly all of them he has spoken of his health and said he was entirely re-covered. No sir. it is not ill-health nor fear of the result, nor the worry and strain of another campaign which impelled Blaine to write that letter. As given to me at the time to which he refers his reasons were those, before the nomination by the republicans in 1876. Blaine was very anxious to obtain the presidency and worked for it. with the aid of his friends. He was disappointed when it went to another man in the manner it did. In 1880 he was still anxious, although in lesser decree and his disappointment was less such disappointment and his disappointment was the search of the state o ree, and his disappointment was less marked. "In 1884 he had to a great extent lost his desire for the office and now he withdraws from the contest because he has no wish to become president. He takes a keen in crest in literary works and wants quiet and rest. I assure you these are the only reasons for Blaine's letter that are known to me. Everybody, sooner or later, loses desire for some-thing which they were once anxious to obtain, and this is entirely true of Blaine."
"Is not Blaine's letter somewhat inconsistent with the action of his friends, pre-

control of the state delegations and commit-"No sir it is not inconsistent. No such work has been done by us. Of course I have received countless letters on this subject from people north, south, east and west. Blaine's friends have not sought to set up or secure a single delegate anywhere. We have made no concerted action. There has been no meeting to map out a course favorable to Blaine, and I assure you that whatever has been done by the admirers of Blaine, has been done of their own account and not at the instance of his close friends. We have ione nothing to secure the nomination of

sumably with his consent, in working for the

'Was this letter laid before any meeting of his friends or of the national committee. "It was not. The letter was received by me Tuesday last, it having come direct from Florence to me. It was entirely in Blaine's handwriting. As you see by its opening sen-tence it was intended for the republican party. I did not tell anybody of its existence until Friday. It was given out on Saturday because many papers do not print Sunday editions and I was anxious to give it the widest publicity. I arranged to have it go out by associated press. Even men as close to Blaine as Stephen B. Elkins knew nothing of the existence of this letter till this morn-

Mr. Blaine.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.-The Blaine letter was the only topic of conversation to-day in all public resorts. An evening paper quotes ex-Senator Warner Miller as saying: "In my opinion Blaine has concluded his nomination would not harmonize all factions of the party. He is evidently sincere in his letter." Senator Hawley was asked if he considered the letter as final, He said: "There can be no doubt as to the sincerity of Mr. Blaine in this matter. Circumstances may arise that will compel his friends to refuse to accept this as a final answer, but that no one knows any thing about." Senator Hale: "I think he is sincere and means every word he has written. I cannot answer the question as to whether I had any premonition of his intentions in this matter, but I can say positively that Blaine was not anxious to run in 1884 and was urged to do so. He will return in June or July and when the campaign opens Blaine will enter the field and speak for the ticker will enter the field and speak for the ticket The Evening Post says: "We think Blaine's letter does actually make him out of the field as a contestants for the republican nomination for the presidency. We think that this will be the effect and result of it, whether he so intended it or not." Chauncey M. Depew said: "Mr. Blaine's letter was a surprise and a disappointment to me. It is, I think, to all his friends. I feel sure Blaine's friends will regret the step he has deemed it was his duty to take and that the majority of them will not con-sider it final. Mr. Blaine's declination will

will it prevent him from accepting the nom ination should it be given him. As for other possible candidates—well, their na-tional popularity will not be known until the Chicago convention assembles. What St. Paul Prominents Think. St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the Ber.]—Intense interest is every where manifested in the surprising change that has come over the spirit of the dreams of this great Maine statesman. Blaine's let ter of declination for presidential honors came like a bomb in the republican camps No one seemed to possess the slightest idea that the once great ambition of Blaine's life would be shattered thus early in the race. His admirers here are varied in their opinions as to the meaning of his letter. Some accept it as a final, while others are wont to consider it as a feeler as to public sentiment. Not a few are desirous of pressing his nomination, while others favor Sherman, Sheridan, Gresham and Allison. The democrats

not necessarily prevent his friends from nominating him for the presidency; neither

success with Cleveland in the field. The following is what the leading republicans and democrats say on the subject: Hon. P. H. Kelly, chairman of the demo cratic committee—Blaine is a cunning fel-low. Like Tilden in his letter to the Cincin-nati convention, no one knows whether or not he wants the nomination. He thinks his

generally contend that Blaine withdrew on

the ground that he would have no chance of

letter will create a boom in his favor. Any way, Cleveland is our choice. Mayor Smith, a leading democrat—Cleve land can outtrot any republican in the land. Hon. Michael Doran, democratic candidat for governor-Cleveland can defeat any mar

Foyes, republican-It is a wise move on Blaine's part. He will gain prestige by remaining in the back ground for another term and allowing Sherman to come to the Channing Seabury, a leading wholesale dealer and republican-I am glad Blaine is

out of the race and hope he will remain in Europe until after the election. Sheridan is my favorite. Frank Seymour, Merchants' National bank I would vote for Cleveland in preference o Blaine, though a republican. Ex-Lieutenant Governor Gillman, repub lican-Blaine is only working up a little

hean—Blaine is only working up a little boom in his own favor.

Governor McGill—If Blaine retires the party leaders will discover that they can get along very well without him.

W. N. Seaverence, a republican with congressional aspirations—Blaine's decision about the agreed to be agreed to should be agreed to by every republican in the union. His letter was the wisest act of

his life, save getting married. State Senator Sheffer—Binine's retirement is final, and Gresham is the next best man. Dr. Day, ex-postmaster-Major Blaine told me over a year ago that Jim was going to get out. He is now doing so I am not glad not sorry.

Gordon E. Cole, an ex-judge and leading

republican—It is fortunate for the party that Blaine has retired. Gen. Averill—I am a personal friend of Blaine's. I'm serry he has retired, and be lieve he is honest in his statements. Captain Blakely, president of the chamber of commerce—I am in favor of nominating Blaine whether he wants it or not. Colonel Moore, Governor McGill's right-

hand man-I think Blaine means just what Chairman Clarkson's Views.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 13.-J. S. Clarkson, the Iowa member of the national republican committee, in an interview on Blaine's letter of withdrawal this evening, said: "I have been expecting this letter for some time. It is in line with the letters I received from Mr. Blaine in November and December, which led me to believe and say at the national committee meeting in Washington and New York that I did not beleive he would be in the field. The press of the country, led by the pursuing misrepresentations of the malignant enemies of Blaine, has refused to believe in the sincere and unselfish attitude Blaine has held toward the party. In 1884 he was not a candidate for the nomination; did not really want it, and I received several letters from him in the winter and early spring before his nomination, strongly expressing a wish not to run. So far from directing his friends at the national convention that year, he had communicated with them and not a word passed between him and any of them during the con test there. The masses of the party, not the politicians, were for him and it was their moving forward that sent the delegates moving forward that sent the delegates to Chicago for him. Before he went abroad last spring he told me of his sectled disinclination to run and his wish to contribute in every way that he possibly could to the unification and success of the party election of 1888. But people, still preferring and believing he was defeated in 1884 by the treachery of some party religious here. of some party politicians, have been intending a move forward again and re-nominate and elect him, and would have done so but for this letter. His action now shows a new greatness of the man. His devotion as a republican has done much to disarm emnity before; this should certainly remove it all now. He will be at the front for the party next fall, and Blaine republicans will be for the candidate without

any sulking, whoever he is.

"Iowa has voted in three successive nati nul conventions for Blaine, and believes in him now more than ever. Now that he is out of the field it will probably present a candidate of its own. It has two very strong and fit men in Senator Allison and Justice Miller. Both are very strong in the state, but the senator from his closer re lations with the people in later years has a great advantage. There will be no contest great advantage. There will be no contest between them and the state will be united for an Iowa candidate. Senator Allison is strong in all points where Blaine is strong, including in all points where Blaine is strong, including the Pacific states. He is exceptionally strong with the business interests of the east because of his level-headed and sagacious career in congress for twenty-five years. Justice Miller is known as a trusted counsellor of President Lincoln and of all republican presidents since, and as the first jurist of the country of the present age. The indications are now that the party will take a western man for candidate. Sherman, of course, will move powerfully into the contest under the new order, but I believe the country will respond to other men and shat the choice, if made between western men, will be between Allison and Harrison men, will be between Allison and Harrison or Gresham, with Rusk, of Wisconsin, likely to develop great strength. Sherman is a strong man, but his age and the withdrawal of Blaine clears the field for new aspirants such as the ones I have named in the west, with Foraker added, and such men as Haw-ley and Hiscock in the east.

Thinks He Will Run. PITTSBURG, Feb. 18.-Joseph D. Weeks, financial secretary of the republican national committee, in commenting upon Blaine's letter, said: "I think Blaine is perfectly sincere in what he says, but I do not think his withdrawal will prevent his nomination nor his acceptance of the nomination if thrust upon him. The issue this year will be tariff versus free trade, and as Mr. Blaine is the strongest exponent of the protective system now before the people, it would not

Comment of Leading Newspapers. NEW YORK, Feb. 13.- [Special Telegran o the BEE.]-Commenting on Mr. Blaine's letter, the Tribune, whose editor has long been on terms of most intimate personal and political friendship with Blaine, and who doubtless speaks with entire authority, says: "A letter from Blaine is published this norning and withdraws his name, so far as it is in his power to do so, from con sideration of republicans for the nomination in their approaching national convention. This letter is no surprise to those friends of his who have known how reluctant he has been from the outset to give the sanction even of silence to such consideration. It is a simple fact that Blaine was almost dragooned by his friends into the candi dacies of 1880 and 1884, and that he has constantly assured them that he would not be put in the position of ever seeming to seek the nomination. We regret the decision profoundly, since we believed that he would command more votes in doubtful states than any other republican yet proposed. But various candidates, all excellen men and deserving well of the republicar party, are actively in the field, and the next two weeks may be expected to present some unusually lively politics. May the best mar

The Heraid says: "We accept the action of Blaine as conclusive, and, looked at from a republican point of view, it must be regarded as wise, and we might even say magnan mous. His nomination then (in 1884) was mistake, and such a mistake as he should never have made. The nomination belonged to Arthur from every sentiment of chivalry to a noble president and of approval of a great administration."

The Times says: "Blaine's Florence let ter will be variously interpreted. Those who know him well and greatly admire him, to gether with those who know him well and greatly distrust him, will be loth to accept it as absolute and final putting aside of the presidential nomination, which it is conceded the might have."

The World says: "This letter has the air of sincerity and it may be said that it increases the presidential chances of John Sherman something like 25 per cent.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the Brg:—The Commercial-Gazette says: "The faultless intelligence of Blaine has seen that he could not go into the field without confronting personal opposition re-enforced by all the timorous element in the party, and environed by all ancient an mosities; and he has concluded to disregard the expostulations of his friends and step

the expostulations of his friends and step aside, trusting the party may find for a leader one whe, if not abler and more faithful than he, has not developed so many elements of personal opposition. St. Louis, Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the Ber.]—The Republican (democratic) says: "The letter is apparently a peremptory declination of the honor of leading a forlorn hope, but the manner in which Mr. Jones gave it to the press and the refusal to say what Blaine will do if his friends insist on his nomination, seems to indicate that. his nomination, seems to indicate that, though the magnetic man from Maine is in retreat, he has not burned the bridges behind

The Globe Democrat says: "We are frank to say in so far as the withdrawal is a sur-prise to us it is not a disagreeable surprise. It seems to us to make the republican victory more feasible and better assured, and this, to us, is an object of much greater concern than the gratification of any man's ambition or the elevation of any man to the presidency or to any other position." Chicago, Ill.. Feb. 13.—[Special Telegram to the Ber. |—The Tribune says: "The letter is sincere. It was written without reserve. It will be accepted in good faith by the people. The party has no claims upon Mr. Blaine that

it can seek to enforce against his private wishes. Though he may not be again a candidate for the presidency the public will have the further services of \$\epsilon\$ illustrious a citizen. Whether it be in the senate of the United States or in the cabinet of the next republican president. Blains will surely fill a large can president, Blaine will surely fill a large states that has not been written."

Columbus, Feb. 13.—|Special Telegram to

the Bee.]—Concerning Blaine's letter, John Sherman said he had been expecting some such utterance from Blaine for some time, and it was on this understanding that he (Sherman) had entered the lists.

Mr. Childs is Willin'. CHICAGO, Feb. 13 .- | Special Telegram to the BEE.]-A dispatch to the News from Philadelphia says in spite of all declarations to the contrary George W. Childs would like the presidential nomination at the hands of the republican party, and that it is certain that a party will enter the convention in his interest.

FIRE AT ST. PAUL.

Several Hundred Thousand Dollars

Destroyed By Fire and Water. St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 13.-Another disas trous fire visited the wholesaie district this morning. The whole fire department of the city assembled at Ryan block, where it started about 6 o'clock this morning. The firemen found great difficulty in locating the fire, as the smoke increased. Despite the efforts to suppress the fire, the entire block, five stories high, from 225 to 227 East Third street, was soon in its possession. The Ryan drug company, next door fire, was damaged about \$30,000, wholly by water and smoke. fire, was damaged about \$30,000, wholly by water and smoke, and is fully insured. Foote, Schulze & Co., shoe manufacturers, carried a stock of \$20,000 or \$300,000, on which there was insurance of about \$20,000. J. J. Watson Brothers & Hyndman placed the entire insurance on the building, the amount being \$35,000. Only the walls of the building are left standing. There is \$12,000 insurance on the machinery in the manufactory department. The stock of Foote, Schulze & Co., is wholly

wrecked, that which is not burned being soaked with water. The fire wall which sep-erated Foote, Schulze & Co., from the Ryan drug store prevented the fire from spreading into that portion of the building occupied by the latter firm. Their stock is badly soaked and smoked, but the firm does not anticipate the figures will go above the sum first mentioned. The insurance amounts to about \$252,000. The loss on building and fixtures is fully covered by \$42,000 insurance.

Death of a Missouri Journalist. St. Joseph, Mo., Feb. 13.-[Special Teleram to the BEE.]-Colonel Frank M. Tracy died at his home in Troy, Kas., this morning at 4:20 o'clock. Colonel Tracy was well known throughout Kansas and Missouri. He served with distinction in the union army as colonel of the Sixteenth Kansas regiment. He was born in Rolls county, Missouri, January 3, 1838. He learned the printing trade on the St. Joseph Gazette and afterwards worked on the St. Louis Republican and Democrat, He established the Free Democrat in 1859, and in 1876 purchased the St. Joseph Herald and was its editor until 1885 when he retired on account of sickness. He was regarded as one of the most brilliant writers in the Missouri Valley, being both able and fearless. In 1881 while still editor of the Herald, he was appointed by Garfield postmaster in this city, which position he held until his retirement from the paper. The newspaper men of the city will attend the funeral at Troy Wednesday in a body, and will present a handsome floral offering.

The West Growing in Favor. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 13 .- [Special Telegramito the BEE.]-J. L. Lombard, president of the Lombard Investment company, returned from Boston and New York to-day. He states that stockholders are much pleased that so few foreclosures have been made in the western states where they have loaned the western states where they have loaned millions of dollars. He says money is easier for legitimate use, but not for speculative purposes. Western merchants are being sought for by eastern wholesalers, showing the confidence reposed in western people. He says trade is quiet in the east. Banks are not lending freely to merchants, which is the reverse in the west. Eastern merchants are required to give collateral besides personal indorseto give collateral besides personal indorse-ments. He says what is really needed west s more conservatism and less desire to branch out too far in so many enterprise outside of their own legitimate line. He be ieves that spring pusiness will be good and that eastern capital west as heretofore. capital will continue to flow

The Freight Rate War. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 13.-[Special Telegram to the BEE. |—There is no change in the freight war. No roads are doing any catting to-day. Still all agents are unsettled and very watchful. Cattle rates remain at \$30 per car, packing house stuffs at 12 cents. The feeling is one of uncertainty. A few agents state that fears are now that it will extend to passenger rates, when there will be one of the greatest railroad struggles ever mown in this section. A Fight in a Dive. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 13 .- [Special Tele-

ram to the BEE.]-Late last night a fight ook place in a dive on Eighth street between the inmates and visitors. Knives and razors and clubs played leading roles. The officers dispersed the tough gang, but the notorious Hicks Douglas, Rose Mott and Emma Montgomery continued until separated. Officer Davis had a thumb nearly bitten off by Rose Mott while putting her in the cell.

A Young Woman's Sudden Death. St. Joseph, Mo., Feb. 13.-[Special Telegram to the BEE.]-Sussana Marshall, roung woman living at the corner of Fourth and August streets, was discovered by her mother about 2 o'clock this afternoon lying across a chair in her private room, dead. Mrs. Marshall had left the room only a few minutes before, leaving her daughter apparparently well. The coroner's jury returned a verdict to the effect that death was due to stroke of apoplexy.

Probable Infanticide.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 13 .- [Special Tele gram to the BEE. |-While workmen were cleaning the catch basin of a sewer at Seventh and Grant avenue this morning, Albert Kerwin found the remains of a baby wrapped in flannel. There was noting on it to lead to the capture of its parents.

Held For Manslaughter. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 13 .- | Special Tele gram to the BEE. |-Green Patterson has een bound over to the grand jury in the sum of \$1,000 charged with manslaughter. He kicked a colored girl named Katle Howard in

the abdomen so that she died several days fterwards. A Disreputable Runner. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb., 13 .- [Special Tel egram to the BEE.]-A runner for an employment agency, named Frank Geylon, was pabbed at the union depot while attempting

a disreputable joint on West Ninth street. He will be prosecuted vigorously. Kansas City Cable News. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 13 .- Special Tele

o guide two newly arrived countrymen into

gram to the BEE.] -The Metropolitan street aiiway has let a contract for two Corliss engines, 500-horse power each. Contracts for grading and construction will be let to-mor row. Work on the Main, Eighteenth, Nint and Olive street lines will be very rapid, sa the completion of the road is guaranteed by contractors August 1.

Fire at Brookfield. BROOKFIELD, Mo., Feb. 13 .- [Special Tele gram to the BEE.]-Fire yesterday destroyed five buildings in the center of the business portion of town. Owing to the hydrants and hoze being frozen no effort was made to check the progress of the flames. The loss is estimated at \$14,500. Insured for nearly half.

Burned to Death. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 13.-[Special Tele gram to the BEE.]-Information is received

here that James McKelly was burned to death at Dallas, Tex., a few days ago. was a bricklayer and well known here.

FIFTIETH CONGRESS.

Senate. WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.-The address of the constitutional convention of Dakota was presented favoring division of the territory and admission of the southern portion as

The bill providing for a commission on the subject of the alcoholic liquor traffic was placed on the calendar. The following bills were introduced and re-

ferred: By Mr. Platt-To prohibit members territorial of legislatures from holding office; also to pay \$7,371 for the passage of General Lafayette and family from France to the United States as guests of the nation in 1824. C By Mr. Sawyer-Authorizing the appoint

ment of eleven railway mail superintendents. By Mr. Vest-To fix the number of documents printed by congress and known as the "usual number" at 700; also to specify the number of certain documents to be printed. After some debate the resolution was referred

to the committee on printing.

The senate next proceeded to the consideration of the Blair education bill, but after a few remarks by Plum was laid aside and the resolution in regard to the inefficiency of the postal service taken up. After some debate the resolution went over and the senate ad

House. WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.-Under the call of states the following bills and resolutions were introduced and referred: Authorizing the election of a delegate from

the Indian territory to the fifty-first cong-By Mr. Townsend of Illinois-Permitting farmers and producers of tobacco to sell leaf

tobacco in any quantity to unlicensed dealers or to any person without restriction and repealing all laws inconsistent thereto. A resolution instructing the committee on ways and means to report what progress it has made in the consideration of bills repeal-

ing internal revenue taxes and to state at what time such bills are likely to be reported to the house. In case the committee is unable to agree upon these bills it is instructed to report the fact to the house and the bills shall be placed on the calendar.

To prohibit fictitious and gambling transactions in articles produced by American farming industry. Proposing a constitutional amendment lim

ting the membership of the house to 250. By Mr. Brower of North Carolina -- A resoution instructing the committee on ways and means to report what progress it had made in the consideration of bills repealing in-ternal revenue taxes and to state at what time such bills are likely to be reported to the house. In case the committee is unable to agree upon these bills, it is instructed to report the fact to the house and the bill shall e placed on the calendar. By Mr. Smith of Wisconsin—For the es-

tablishment of a postal telegraph system.

By Mr. Guenther of Wisconsin—To regulate telegraph companies.

Bills were introduced for the erection of public buildings at Galesburg, Ill.; Davenport, Ia., and Eau Claire, Wis.

The house then proceeded to questions pertaining to the District of Columbia. The bill mainshing the advertising of lettery

taining to the District of Columbia. The bill punishing the advertising of lottery tickets in the district was opposed by Mr. Rogers, of Arkaasas, upon constitutional grounds. It would, he said, prevent any pa-per, no matter where published, from coming into the district, and would infringe upon the liberty of the press. the liberty of the press.
Mr. Brown, of Indiana, spoke in support of

the measure.

Mr. Cummings, of New York, and Mr. Gruenther, of Wisconsin, said that if conress had the right to prescribe what should be printed in the advertising columns of a newspaper it had the right to exercise a censorship over the editorial and news columns They regretted the growing tendency in this country toward the methods of monarchial Europe. The bill was referred to the committee on judiciary.
Bills were passed to prohibit any person in

Washington or Georgetown from making books or pools on the result of any races or games of base ball. Adjourned.

Mrs. Grant and Mrs Cleveland. NEW YORK, Feb. 13 .- [Special Telegram to the Bee.]-A Washington dispatch says: There has been a civil war imminent here. Every effort has been made to suppress its mutterings. It seems Mrs. Grant, while a guest here of Senator and Mrs. Stanford. called at the executive mansion. The visit was a formal one. It would naturally be thought that Mrs. Cleveland at least would hastened to show her appreciation of Mrs. Grant's courtesy by immediately re-turning the call. Mr. and Mrs. Stanford, lowever, as well as the public were shocked and pained that Mrs. Cieveland failed even in the common courtesy of leaving a card upon her-predecessor. Some people at tempted to extenuate this rude and direct attempt at a snub in the fact that Mrs. Grant was the guest of a republican senator. When, however, Mr. and Mrs. McLean entertained the widow, the excuse no longer existed, nor was the return visit paid. Republicans here are furious at the slight put upon Mrs.Grant and southern democrats delighted. Northern democrats are ashamed. The latter pronounce it a case of too much training to

please the south.

Escape of Noted Criminals. St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 13. - Three prisoners-Billy O'Conners, the notorious Minneapolis postoffice ber, Frank St. Clair and William Thomas, both awaiting trial for highway robbery-escaped from the Ramsey county jail at 7:30 last evening and their absence was not discovered until about the same hour this morning. The hour of their de-parture was learned of Burkhardt, a United States prisoner from Milwaukee, charged with passing counterfeit money, who was in the same cell with Thomas, and who refused to escape, giving as his reason he would prove his innecence if he stood trial. The escape was made by sawing four bars from the cell door, which let the men into the upper corridor. From there the prisoners reached the attic by sawin through eight bars forming the roof of th corridor, and then cutting through the ceil ing. A hole was then made through the sheet iron roof and a rope made of ham mocks was used to lower themselves to the ground

Murdered For Money. Marrissa, Ill., Feb. 13 .- | Special Telegran to the Beg i-A terrible murder for money was committed near here Sunday, the victin being George W. Guthrie, a well known and highly respected citizen, at his residence lo cated two and one half miles southwest of own. Early in the morning Mrs. Guthrie and other members of the family went to church, leaving Mr. Guthrie at home. When they returned home Guthrie was lying on the floor with bis clothes saturated with blood from a would in his breast. It was suspected at first he had committed suicide, but such suspicions were dispelled when Mrs. Guthrie discovered that the safe in which the valuables, and at times large sums of money, are kept, had been tampered with, but had re-sisted the attempts of the robbers. The pockets of the dead man had been rifled of 356 and a gold watch and chafa. It is pre-sumed Guthrie heard a noise made by the robbers, and going into the room was shot through the breast. The appearance of the room indicated a struggle.

A Dakota Bank Goes Under. DEADWOOD, Dak., Feb. 13.- | Special Tele grain to the Bes. | - The Central City bank, of Central City, closed its doors to-day. Lin bilities, \$20,000; assets, \$55,000. No banks in this city are affected by the failure.

DRIVING OUT THE GAMBLERS

Sloux City Following the Example of Nebraska's Metropolis.

GROCERS WIN THE POTASH FIGHT

The Drug Stores Defeated-A Sious City Teacher Fined For Assaulting a Cripple-A Pella

Mill Burned.

The Iowa Legislature.

town.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 13.-In the senate Mr. Mills introduced a bill making an approprintion for the soldiers' home at Marshall

Mr. Kelly introduced a concurrent resolution that the secretary of state furnish for the use of the general assembly 300 copies of the platform of the two great political parties of the state for the year 1887. After some discussion and amendments that the order

include the platforms of 1864 and 1868, the matter was laid on the table.

The bill relating to the issue of waterworks bonds by cities of the second class, passed the senate with a slight amendment. The house resolved after the 16th to hold two sessions daily.

The Grocerymen Win.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 13 .- | Special Telegram to the BEE. |-The grocery has met the drug store and won the fight. To-day the legislature passed the bill permitting grocery and other stores to sell concentrated lye and potash. Some time ago the state pharmacy board made a ruling that as lye was poisonous, no one but druggists could be allowed to sell it and they must handle it with other poisons. Immediately there was a great out-ery not only from country merchants but also from their patrons who couldn't always find a drug store convenient when they wanted a little potash, so the legislature, soon after it. met, took up the subject and kept at it till re-lief was afforded and the country grocery store once more enjoys its rights

Will Determine Their Rights.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 13 .- [Special Telegram to the Ber. |-The broad guage street railroad of this city, which has had a long litigation with the narrow guage or old street car company, scored a point to-day. The decision of the supreme court gave the narrow guage the right to the streets under the old charter for use of horses as motive power, but it was inferred that electric or other motive power were to be used by the new company before it would be allowed to oper-ate. In order to get a ruling on this point from the supreme court before making an investment, one member of the company applied to the district court Satplied to the district court Sat-urday for an injunction to re-strain his associates from introducing electric power. He hoped in this way to get the case appealed to the supreme court and get an authoritative decision. The old comget an authoritative decision. The old com-pany opposed this and claimed it was a sham suit, and tried to have the injunction dis-missed, but Judge Kavanagh to-day decided that it should stand, and so issued an injunc-tion holding that the new company could not use even electric power without infringing on the rights of the old company. Of course the new company will promptly appeal and thus get the case at once to the supreme court and find out what rights it has and then go shead. It is regarded as a clever victory for the new company, and excites much com-ment.

A Teacher Fined For Assault. Sioux Cirr, Ia., Feb. 13.-|Special Telegram to the BEE.]-Prof. William E. Palmer, rincipal of the Wall street school, was to-day fined \$40 for assaulting on the street three boys who were not pupils of his school. The evidence showed that Palmer dragged one of the boys, who was a cripple, from a sleigh and kicked and struck him. The school board meets to morrow and it is said

will dismiss Palmer from his place. The Thermometer Rapidly Falling. Sioux City, Ia., Feb. 13.-[Special Telegram to the BEE.]-Reports from numerous points to-night show that a storm of almost blizzard violence has extended throughout central and southern Dakota. The thern omhere, and there is a high

wind, but no snow as yet. A Mill Burned.

Pella, In., Feb. 13 .- [Special Telegram to the BEE.]-The flouring mill owned by M. C. McCombs, at Otley, eight miles northwest of this city caught fire at 10 o'clock last Satday night from a defective flue and burned to the ground. Loss is about \$4,200. Insured for \$3,800 in the State Insurance company of

Sioux City Gamblers Fined. Sioux Cirv, Ia., Feb. 13.- [Special Telegram to the BEE. |-The proprietors of the eight gambling houses which were pulled Saturday night were in court to-day. Frank Sharp and "Stub" Wilson were fined \$100. The other six were also fined, but the fines were remitted on condition that they would immediately leave Sioux City.

An Unknown Blizzard Victim. DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 13.- [Special Telegram to the BEE. |-At 11 o'clock to-day an unknown man, apparently fifty years old and well dressed, was found dead five miles west of Alden, Hardin county. On his person was an account book kept in German, but no clue to his identity could be obtained. It is supposed that he is another victim of

the great blizzard of January 12. A Blast Furnace For Duluth. DULUTH, Minn., Feb. 13 .- [Special Tele gram to the BEE. |- To-morrow morning men begin work clearing the ground and preparing for the excavations for an eightyon blast furnace to be built at West Duluth by the Union Blast Furnace company at once. This furnace, which is to be built on plans drawn by John Bickenbine, the wellknown Philadelphia engineer, is to be a fine and complete affair and is to be of the best and most economical pattern. The plans call for a double eighty-ton furnace and rail and sheet fron mills, but only half the furnace is to be built at present. As soon as possible a force of twenty men is to be increased and the work of construction will proceed rap-idly. It is expected that the furnace will be in operation before winter. It is to be a coke furnace and the coking pits are to be built near the furnaces of West Duluth. The capital of the company is \$1,000,000.

The Visible Supply Statement. CEICAGO, Feb. 13 .- The visible supply of grain for the week ending February 11, as compiled by the secretary of the Chicago board of trade is as follows:

Coru 8,502,000
Oats 5,230,000

Brivingge N. J. Feb. 13 .- A big wreck

Train Wreck.

caused by a defective air-brake, occurred on the Delaware, Lackawana & Western railroad this morning in which a cattle train was telescoped and many cattle killed. The road is blockaded.

Washington, Feb. 13.-The roof of the order rance building at the Washington navy yard feil in this morning, it being unable to sup port the heavy weight of snow upon it. The damage is estimated at \$30,000.